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New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) Prosecutes Case to Defraud State of New Hampshire

On Friday November 15, 2006, Daniel J. Burke was convicted by the Rochester District Court of 4 counts of fraud by non-disclosure in violation of the Unemployment Compensation Statute. He was sentenced to 90 days in the House of Correction and a one thousand dollars fine plus 20% penalty assessment. Incarceration was suspended, contingent on Mr. Burke's good behavior for one year and in recognition that Mr. Burke had made full restitution for the benefits he unlawfully received. Under RSA 282-A: 163, he is also disqualified from receiving benefits for one year from the date of conviction.

Mr. Burke began collecting unemployment benefits after becoming unemployed. After returning to work, he continued filing for benefits without disclosing his new employment. Unemployment fraud is frequently discovered when NHES computers compare the information claimants list on weekly applications for benefits to the quarterly wage reports filed by their employers. This includes reports of persons who may be collecting benefits fraudulently in New Hampshire while they are employed in other states. Employers also report to the state all new hires.

The New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is aggressively seeking convictions in fraudulent unemployment insurance cases. "We are committed to providing unemployment insurance benefits that are fair and benefit the great majority of workers who are honest," said Commissioner Brothers. "The small minority who break the rules face serious consequences."

Suspected Unemployment Insurance fraud can be reported by calling 1-800-852-3400, ex. 4016. For additional information, go to http://www.nhes.state.nh.us and select Employment Security Division, Unemployment Insurance, and Fraud.

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